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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Beatriz Prieto	FROM: Marcel K. Bingham
COMPANY: Group Art Unit - 2152	DATE: DECEMBER 19, 2002
FAX NUMBER: (703) 308-6165	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 5
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: 50277-0236
RE: Proposed Claim	U.S. SERIAL NUMBER: 09/258,013

☒ URGENT   ☐ FOR REVIEW   ☐ PLEASE COMMENT   ☐ PLEASE REPLY   ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

UNOFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Please review the attached and call me to discuss.

Marcel K. Bingham
(408) 414-1206

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE AND CONFIRM RECEIPT VIA FACSIMILE AT (408) 414-1076.

Docket No. 50277-0236

UNOFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

In re application of: Group Art Unit No.: 2152

    Alok Kumar Srivastava, et al.   Examiner: B. Prieto

Serial No.: 09/258,013

Filed on: February 25, 1999

For: DETERMINING THE PARTICIPANTS IN A
        DISTRIBUTED OPERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PROPOSED CLAIM

Sir:

Please review the proposed claim and call me to discuss the merits of patentability of claim 1 in light of this amendment.

PROPOSED CLAIM

1   1.   A method of determining participants of a distributed operation in a distributed system,

2   the method comprising the steps of:

3   registering in a name service participant data that identifies a plurality of participants that

4   are participating in said distributed operation;

5   wherein said distributed operation is a unit of work involving said plurality of

6   participants;

7   wherein said name service registers information received from clients and provides said

8   information to clients that request the information, wherein said clients include

9   one or more nodes different than a node on which said name service resides; and

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10   causing a particular node of said one or more nodes that requires information about

11   participants in said distributed operation to retrieve said participant data from said

12   name service; and

13   wherein any node of said one or more nodes that is performing deadlock detection may

14   retrieve from said name service said participant data to perform said deadlock

15   detection.

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REMARKS

The added limitation clarifies that participant data registered in the name service to identify participants in a distributed operation is available for retrieval by any given node of a set of nodes other than one on which the name service resides. Further, the participant data is retrieved in order for the given node to perform deadlock detection. The claim amendment further distinguishes claim 1 from the prior art for the following reasons.

IBA

The participant data in the name service has apparently been analogized to the data in the WFG table in which a global deadlock detector registers wait-for-relations. The global deadlock detector retrieves information to perform deadlock detection. *Iba* does not disclose or suggest that the global deadlock detector resides on a node different than the one on which the WFG table resides. Further, *Iba* does not disclose or suggest in any way that data in a WFG management table is available for retrieval by another entity on another node different than the node on which the WFG management table resides, let alone by another entity on another node performing deadlock detection.
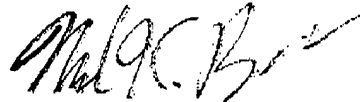
HERIOT

Herriot does not disclose or suggest in any way that the participants involved in a particular unit of work are identified by data in the name service in any way. In fact, nothing in *Herriot* suggests that a particular task or instance of a service performed by servers or clients are tracked in any way. At best, *Herriot* teaches to identify the entities available to provide work, but does not teach to store participant data that identifies who participated in a particular unit of

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work. Therefore, *Herriot* cannot teach retrieving such information, let alone retrieving the

information for the purpose of performing deadlock detection.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: December 19, 2002

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